

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 11292 201705Z

70 S
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SP-02 INR-07 PM-04 AF-08 SS-15

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R 201700Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3824
INFO AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

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E. O. 11652:NA
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MU, UK
SUBJECT: BRITISH ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWAL FROM
MASIRAH AND SALALAH IN OMAN

REF: LONDON 11099

1. HMG MADE FOLLOWING WRITTEN RESPONSE TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION JULY 19 REGARDING THE FUTURE STATUS OF RAF MASIRAH AND RAF SALALAH: "THE RAF REGIMENT AT SALALAH HELPS TO OPERATE THE AIRFIELD THERE. THE DETACHMENT WILL BE WITHDRAWN ON 31 MARCH 1977 AFTER HANDING OVER THE OPERATION OF THE AIRFIELD TO THE OMANI AUTHORITIES. THE PERSONNEL AT MASIRAH RUN THE STAGING FACILITIES AND THE AIRPORT THERE. FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF THE RUNDOWN IN THE FAR EAST, THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RAF MASIRAH HAS ALREADY BEEN REDUCED. NOW THAT WE NO LONGER REQUIRE A STAGING POST AT MASIRAH, WE HAVE AGREED WITH THE SULTAN OF OMAN THAT RAF MASIRAH WILL CLOSE ON 31 MARCH 1977."

2. BRITISH ANNOUNCEMENT RECEIVED NO PRESS COVERAGE HERE, ALTHOUGH SOME PAPERS RAN BRIEF WIRE SERVICE STORIES ON COORDINATED ANNOUNCEMENT FROM MUSCAT.

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NNN

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